

## Message Text

PAGE 01 CURACA 00479 122336Z

66

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 SSO-00 CIAE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00

RSC-01 PM-07 SS-20 NSC-07 PA-04 PRS-01 USIE-00 NSCE-00

INRE-00 DRC-01 /098 W

----- 126149

O 122130Z SEP 74

FM AMCONSUL CURACAO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1991

AMEMBASSY CARACAS IMMEDIATE

CNO WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE IMMEDIATE

USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS CZ IMMEDIATE

CINCLANTFLT NORFOLK IMMEDIATE

COMFAIRCARIB IMMEDIATE

COMUSNASO FT AMADOR CZ IMMEDIATE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CURACAO 0479

FOR BURKE ARA/CAR

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MPOL, PFOR, EAIR, NA, VE

SUBJECT: ALLEGED VIOLATIONS OF NA AIRSPACE (HALCON VISTA)

REF: A) CURACAO 0472; B) USDAO 2532230Z SEP 74;

C) COMUSNAVSO 2540650Z SEP 74; D) COMUSNAVSO

120404Z SEP 74; E) CARACAS 8976

1. DESPITE CONGEN STATEMENTS TO PRESS AND GENERAL ACCEPTANCE BY GNA THAT EXERCISE IS GOV CONTROLLED, ONE LOCAL NEWSPAPER ON SEP 11 STILL QUOTES GOV SPOKESMAN AS STATING EXERCISE IS A US OPERATION.

2. GNA DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AVIATION OFFICIAL STATES DCA RECEIVED VENEZUELAN NOTICE TO AIRMEN (NOTAM) ON SEPT 6 STATING AREA BETWEEN 10 DEGREES 20 MINUTES NORTH AND 1300 LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 CURACA 00479 122336Z

NORTH DEGREES AND 67 DEGREES 30 MINUTES WEST AND 70.00 WEST FROM SURFACE TO 4000 FEET WOULD BE USED FOR EXERCISE. EXCLUDED WERE TERRITORY AND TERRITORIAL WATERS OF CURACAO AND ARUBA. ISLAND OF BONAIRE, AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE NA IS IN THE EXERCISE

AREA, AS IS MOST OF PLESMAN AIRPORT'S 25 MILE AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL ZONE. AIRCRAFT FROM HALCON VISTA WERE PRE-EMPTING ZONE AND HAD NO RADIO COMMUNICATION WITH PLESMAN. ON THE ADVICE OF AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLERS ALM CANCELLED ALL FLIGHTS TO AND FROM BONAIRE. FLIGHTS TO ARUBA AND CURACAO CONTINUED BUT WERE DELAYED SINCE CONTROLLERS HAD TO ROUTE THEM ABOVE THE PRE-EMPTEE AREA AND QTE CORKSCREW UNQTE THEM DOWN OVER ISLAND TERRITORY. AIR OPERATIONS WERE RETURNED TO NORMAL AT 8 P.M. ON SEP. 12.

3. GNA ON RECEIVING NOTAM IMMEDIATELY ASKED HOLLAND TO PROTEST VENEZUELAN ACTION. LOCAL SOURCES SAY THERE HAS BEEN NO RESPONSE TO REQUEST BUT ACCORDING LOCAL PRESS IS THAT DUTCH AMBASSADOR JONCKHEER IN CARACAS TOOK NO ACTION DURING SEPT 7 WEEKE D AND FINALLY RAISED MATTER WITH MIDDLE LEVEL GOV FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFIIAL ON SEPT. 9. ARUBA ISLAND COUNCIL GOT INTO THE ACT AND SENT PROTEST TELEGRAM DIRECTLY TO VENEZUELA. NA PRIME MINISTER EVERTSZ IN TV SPEECH SEPT. 11, CASTIGATED VENEZUELAN ACTION AND HELD UP PREVIOUS US MANEUVERS IN AREA AS GOOD EXAMPLE OF HOW MATTERS SHOULD HAVE BEEN ARRANGED. EVERTSZ CRITICIZED ARUBA ISLAND COUNCILIFOR ACTING IN MATTER THAT SHOULD BE CONCERN OF CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OF HOLLAND.

4. DURING LOCAL EXCITEMENT I WAS QUERIED BY NEWSPAER BEURS IF USG INTENDED TO TAKE ACTION TO PROTCT AMERICANS IN N.A. MY RESPONSE, PROMINENTLY FEATURED, (PARTIALLY IN ENGLISH) WAS THAT CURACAO IS AMONG SAFEST, MOST TRANQUIL PLACES IN THE WORLD AND THAT ABSOLUTELY NO USG ACTION TO PROTECT AMERICANS WAS NECESSARY, OR EVER CONSIDERED.

5. I TELEPHONED THE CONGEN OF VENEZUELA AND MENTIONED TO HIM THAT I HAD RECEIVED OFFICIAL NOTICE FROM AMERICAN EMBASSY CARACAS THAT GOV OFFICIALS STATED THAT QTE HALCON VISTA UNQTE WAS A VENEZUELAN EXERCISE AND NOT A USG CONCEIVED OPERATION. HE STATED HE HAD INFORMED THE GNA THAT THIS WAS THE CASE AND HAD ALSO INFORMED THEM THE EXERCISE WAS CANCELLED AS OF SEPT 11, 1974.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 CURACA 00479 122336Z

HE DID NOT VOLUNTEER TO MAKE A STATEMENT TO THIS EFFECT TO THE LOCAL PRESS.

6. COMMENT: IT IS UNKNOWN WHETHER VENEZUELAN ACTION WAS DELIBERATE SLIGHT OF NA OR MERELY RESULT OF CARELESS PLANNING. NET RESULT HAS BEEN TO INCREASE DISTRUST OF VENEZUELA. ANY POLITICAL PROPOSALS FOR VENEZUELAN-ANTILLEAN COOPERATION WILL BE MADE MORE DIFFICULT BECAUSE OF VENEZUELA'S HIGH HANDED ACTION AND GNA CAN BE EXPECTED TO INSIST EVEN MORE STRONGLY THAT GON REACH AGREEMENTWITH VENEZUELA ON TERRITORIAL LIMITS PRIOR TO ANY DISCUSSIONS LEADING TO NA INDEPENDENCE.

7. AS THE USG HAS APPARENTLY BEEN ABSOLVED FROM ANY FURTHER CRITICISM BY GNA AND BY PM EVERTSZ IN HIS REMARKS ON TV AND TO THE PRESS, I HAVE DECIDED TO MAKE NO FURTHER COMMENT TO THE PRESS UNLESS I AM FURTHER QUESTIONED ON THE MATTER. AS FAR AS THE USG IS CONCERNED, IT APPEARS THAT IT HAS EMERGED FROM THIS DONNYBROOK WITH INCREASED SYMPATHY AND GOODWILL. THE CONGEN MUST EMPHASIZE THAT MILITARY OVERFLIGHTS OF GNA TERRITORY MUST HAVE PRIOR DIPLOMATIC CLEARANCE AND EXTREME CAUTION MUST BE EXERCISED EVEN IF A THIRD COUNTRY CONCEIVES AND CONTROLS THE OPERATION. I AGAIN CITE THAT IN THE EXTREMELY DELICATE DIPLOMATIC CLIMATE AS EXISTS AMONG HOLLAND, VENEZUELA AND NA, USG HAS FINEST RELATIONS WITH GNA WHICH MUST NOT BE JEOPARDIZED BY OVERSIGHT OR TACTICAL MILITARY ERROR.

LOFTON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY AIRCRAFT, COMBINED MILITARY EXERCISES, PRESS COMMENTS, AIRSPACE VIOLATIONS, DIPLOMATIC PROTESTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 12 SEP 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** kelleyw0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974CURACA00479  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740255-0665  
**From:** CURACAO  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t19740953/aaaabsni.tel  
**Line Count:** 129  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION ARA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** A) CURACAO 0472; B) USDAO 2532230Z S, EP 74;  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** kelleyw0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 18 SEP 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <18 SEP 2002 by martinml>; APPROVED <03 MAR 2003 by kelleyw0>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ALLEGED VIOLATIONS OF NA AIRSPACE (HALCON VISTA)  
**TAGS:** MPOL, PFOR, EAIR, MARR, NA, VE, US  
**To:** STATE CNO  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005